



Spellbound

Lee McAllistair

Album Released: 28 September 2011



'McAllistair held a sell-out audience spellbound as she delivered her songs with exquisite expression... a talented vocalist and composer **' (five stars) – John McBeath, Jazz Critic***

***'In October the Brunei public were treated to a remarkable performance of vocal and instrumental jazz. The originals were of a high quality, not out of place when mixed with the famous. A rare evening, long to be remembered.'* – Brunei Music Society**

Australian jazz vocalist and composer Lee McAllistair has enjoyed an international career over the past 15 years. She has performed at London's famous 606 Jazz club, the Famous Spiegeltent (UK and Australia), the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, in Asia and at major festivals, events and venues around Australia. She has also performed on the BBC (UK), ABC (Aust), Channels 10, 9 and 7.

Lee studied with respected jazz vocalists Anita Wardell, Jo Lawry and Connaitre Miller at Adelaide University's Elder Conservatorium of Music, before going on to join the vocal jazz teaching staff at the University for two years. Since her move to Sydney, Lee has studied with Kristin Berardi and recently furthered her composition studies with the Stanford University summer jazz residency (August 2011) with Gretchen Parlato and Anthony Wilson (among others), in tandem with the Berklee College of Music Jazz Composition program (international).

Lee launches her first album of entirely original jazz songs, entitled 'Spellbound'; on September 28, 2011 at Sound Lounge, Sydney. The album features long-time collaborators Mark Simeon Ferguson on piano, Mike Bevan on guitar and Lyndon Gray on bass, with guest guitarist James Muller on one track.

The album is a lush musical soundscape that traverses diverse musical ground, from Latin, blues and swing to more pop-influenced tunes. Lee is also a talented lyricist with a penchant for double entendre and using musical terms to describe emotions and situations.

"My focus is always great melody, memorable melody – I pay homage to the craft of the jazz standard, even though these are new songs. And for me the lyrics appear simultaneously with the melody and are as much a part of the music as the notes. Spellbound is also a very emotional journey. It's about finding that dreamy place where you step back and realise that while life is not the prefabricated fairytale you thought it would be, it's somehow just perfect, with all its flaws, exactly as it is. Finding perfection in imperfection is what this album is ultimately about."

The Sydney album launch on Wed, September 28 will feature Mark Simeon Ferguson on piano, James Muller on guitar and Ben Waples on bass. Media tickets may be arranged directly with Lee McAllistair (details below).

TRACKLISTING

Borneo | The Wizard | Heart Strings | Question Time | Spellbound | Nosso Canto | The Odd Couple | Stay
No Cinderella | Emerald City | Flowers in your Dressing Room

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Pics & info downloadable at www.leemcallistair.com

